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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/068,725	02/06/2002	Wayne Kindsvogel	01-04	8714

7590

03/23/2006

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EXAMINER

BLANCHARD, DAVID J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1643

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<p align="center">Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</p>	Application No. 10/068,725	Applicant(s) KINDSVOGEL, WAYNE	
	Examiner David J. Blanchard	Art Unit 1643	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 27 February 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 + 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
 (a) ☒ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 (b) ☒ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
 (c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 (d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
 5. ☒ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): See Continuation Sheet.
 6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
 7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☒ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
 The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
 Claim(s) allowed: _____.
 Claim(s) objected to: _____.
 Claim(s) rejected: 1-8 and 10.
 Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
 9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
 10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER


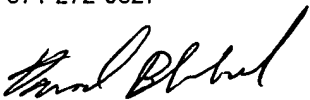
11. ☐ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____.
 12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
 13. ☐ Other: _____.

Continuation of 3. NOTE: Entry of the amendment filed 2/27/2006 would raise new issue, requiring new considerations, new search and new rejections. For example, as presently amended claim 1 and newly added claims 25-29 present epitope specificities not previously presented and entry would require further search and consideration. Additionally, entry of the amendment would raise new issue requiring new rejections under the first and second paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 112. For example, the phrase "at an epitope within a polypeptide consisting of at least one of amino acids..." is unclear because it is uncertain whether the polypeptide and epitope consists of just one amino acid of amino acids 30 to 67 of SEQ ID NO:4 and just one amino acid of amino acids 68 to 154 of SEQ ID NO:4 or a combination of at least one amino acid from both amino acids 30 to 67 and 68 to 154 of SEQ ID NO:4 or does the phrase refer to "at least one" of the polypeptides consisting of amino acids 30 to 67 of SEQ ID NO:4 and amino acids 68 to 154 of SEQ ID NO:4?

Further, entry of the amendment filed 2/27/2006 would raise the issue of new matter under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. For example, as presently amended claim 1 recites "wherein binding to TACI is at an epitope within a polypeptide consisting of at least one of amino acids 30 to 67 of SEQ ID NO:4 and amino acids 68 to 154 of SEQ ID NO:4". There is insufficient written support for targeting tumor cells with an antibody component that binds BCMA and TACI wherein the antibody component binds TACI at an epitope within a polypeptide consisting of at least one of amino acids 30 to 67 and amino acids 68 to 154 of SEQ ID NO:4, which encompasses amino acids from both extracellular fragments of TACI (i.e., amino acids 30 to 67 and 68 to 154 of SEQ ID NO:4). This issue can be obviated by amending claim 1 to recite "wherein the binding to TACI is at an epitope within amino acids 30 to 67 or 68 to 154 of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4." Similarly, dependent claims 10 and 25-29 should also be amended to recite "at an epitope within amino acid residues X to Y of SEQ ID NO:4", consistent with base claim 1. It is noted that such an amendment would also clarify the above issue of indefiniteness under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Continuation of 5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): If, if, if entered, the reply filed 2/27/2006 would overcome the rejection of claims 1-8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, new matter.

Respectfully,
David J. Blanchard
571-272-0827



SHEELA HUFF
PRIMARY EXAMINER